



SENATE JUDICIARY
EXHIBIT NO. 8
DATE 1/9/13
BILL NO.

December 20, 2012

To the Members of the Montana Senate Judiciary Committee:

Recently, the U.S. Chamber Institute for Legal Reform released the ninth *Lawsuit Climate: Ranking the States* survey, conducted by Harris Interactive, Inc. A copy is enclosed. This study, which ranks the state legal climates from one to fifty, is the preeminent standard by which policymakers, opinion leaders and the media measure the relative fairness of the states' civil justice systems.

The litigation environment matters to America's employers more now than ever. Seventy percent of the 1,100 top corporate lawyers and executives who responded to the survey say a state's litigation environment is likely to affect important business decisions such as where to locate or expand their business, up thirteen percent from the same survey conducted five years ago.

With a national unemployment rate of 7.9 percent, lawmakers must work to curtail liability-expanding legislation that would hamper job growth. For more detailed information about how your state's legal system ranks in a range of categories and why, please visit www.InstituteForLegalReform.com/states.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions at (202) 463-3107 or by email at lrickard@uschamber.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lisa A. Rickard".

Lisa A. Rickard

Enclosure

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Montana State Legislature

2013 Session

Exhibit: 8

**This exhibit is a booklet
which cannot be scanned.**

**Only the front cover,
inside cover and table of
content has been scanned
to aid in your research.**

**The original exhibits are
on file at the Montana
Historical Society and
may be viewed there.**

**Montana Historical Society Archives
225 N. Roberts
Helena MT 59620-1201
2013 Legislative Scanner Susie Hamilton**

2012 State Liability Systems Survey

LAWSUIT CLIMATE

Ranking the States



Conducted by Harris Interactive Inc. for the U.S. Chamber Institute for Legal Reform,
September 2012

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OVERVIEW

SPOTLIGHT

KEY ELEMENTS

METHODOLOGY



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